

I am not sure of any product which has delivered such a positive impact on my life than that of the XM radio system I purchased well over a year ago. As an engineer for a professional racing team I travel quite extensively by all modes but have come to enjoy my traveling in my own truck more than any other because of the XM.

I stay more alert and the trips seem much shorter now. The addition of the traffic and weather channels is a big plus. As I get close to the cities available, I know I can consult the guide and get instant information that is not available in such a timely and to the point manner unlike that on the local broadcast channels.

If it were not for the XM I would have to first take my attention away from the road to find a station that even carried the information I needed. Then if I were lucky I would find a report or have to listen through 12 to 20 minutes until the next complete one came along. I have often found that all of these so called traffic reports are over an hour old and not relative to the current situation. Most of the report is just a rehash of the normal daily choke points that are known to repeat daily to the local commuters so that information is rather useless. I see them merely as a carrot for commuters to keep listening in the hopes something of value is reported. I find them essentially useless and annoying because the air time is more commercial than information.

I consider this service of XM to be more of a safety issue for myself. The NAB is only interested in protecting a market for advertising than they are for salient and timely information. I see this as another attempt of saving the wagon wheel for an automotive based society.